

Notes from the session I attended at Social Justice Conference, Block C:

Building Relationships from the Ground Up: Getting Engaged at State and Local Levels

Very pertinent to our own Sisterhoods.

Build Relationships or Organizational. Presenting two models. Neither is wrong, in fact you need both, but in this YouCentric time, its better to move toward Relational.

What is it about?

Relational	Transactional/Bureaucratic
People	Programs
Action (outcomes)	Activity (not just how many things are running)
Co-producers, stakeholders, owners	Consumers/Customers/Donor- expecting service based on their interests
Teams	Standing Committees
What can I give?	What do I get?
Engagement/ turn out- who needs to be in the room, who is going to call them?	attendance
Risk taking/ experimental	Safety/security
Shared power	Power in the board/ top down
Collaborative	Top-down

I found the session very helpful in terms of not only political dynamics and getting grass roots efforts going, but in thinking about my Sisterhood and how we can begin to really engage women again.